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Title: Terraknight Chronicles Vol. IV

Author: Locke Terraknight

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Terraknight Chronicles

Volume 4

Descendants I

Of all the first generation descendants of Denkhara and Sephie, the strongest by far was Andrea. Andrea posessed the inate powers of Denkhara, and the kind heart of Sephie. Daknit, Celes, and Klog each went their separate ways, but Andrea kept to Trinsic, working as a healer. She resurrected those who had been slain outside the city walls. Attacks upon Trinsic by the undead had risen. Each day many folk stood at the city gates and held back several waves of undead foes, battling until their lives gave out. Andrea, as well as the rest of Trinsic, was confined to the city.

And outside the city walls, lay Denkhara's tower, and the corpse of Sephie Terraknight. Sephie and Andrea hadn't often spoke to eachother, and Andrea never visited the tower.

Andrea always complained about horrible feelings she experienced when she was at the tower. As she grew older, the feelings became stronger, to an unbearable point where she was forced to leave home. Before then, Denkhara had taken her as an apprentice, teaching her of all the sorts of magic he had learned in his insane lust for power. Andrea would often spend weeks at a time under a waterfall outside of Trinsic, meditating, to a point she could form the flow of water to whatever she desired. Such intense concentration was never achieved by her maddened father.

Many young wizards would seek Andrea's teachings, and she refused them all, even the most promising of pupils. She didn't wish anyone to learn the many secrets she'd inherited from her father.

Andrea's long, curly brown hair showed streaks of blue from her father's side. She had brilliant eyes of emerald green, which seemed to flare from time to time. Rumors flew around Trinsic that she was an immortal witch, or some seductive demoness. Her only friend was a young man named Locke, a pickpocket. She'd met Locke in the way most healers meet thieves... He'd often show up as a ghost. Locke stole Andrea little trinkets from time to time, and even when he failed and was killed, he would boast, "You can't say I wouldn't die for you."

Locke's hair was often powdered white in a disguise, but Andrea would always recognize him, give him a smile, and shake a finger at him, as if to say "Hey! I'm getting tired of bringing you back from the dead!"

Locke always wore a smile across his scarred face (a product of one too many smacks from guards). For this very reason, Andrea was rightfully frightened to see Locke come into the healer shop alive, with a panicked look to his face.

"What troubles you?" she asked him, trying to read his eyes.

Lock stood speechless for a moment, searching for the right words. "Your mother is..." He didn't need to say another word.

Andrea collapsed, not crying, but simply staring at the floor, too moved to even shed tears. Several minutes passed before she could even speak again. "How?" was the first word from her mouth. Locke Hesitated. "Tell me, please," she pleaded.

"Ver well. I haven't confirmed it myself, but there are rumors that the undead raids come from yoru father's tower. If that's right, then I fear Sephie's been slain by Denkhara." Andrea finally found her tears.

Now here is the difference between Denkhara and Andrea, magic-wise. Andrea feeds off her emotions, and channels them into her magic. Thisis why she so enjoyed working as a healer. Her kind heart and need to help people facilitated her healing efforts. She lost her healing abilities the second she heard of her mother's death. In that instant, her healing magic left her, and in its place came incredibly destructive forces, stemming from deep within her. She felt sorrow toward the death of her mother, and even more importantly, rage toward Denkhara. Her eyes flashed several times over, then remained a solid green. Andrea disappeared from Trinsic. That day, those at the gates reported a rain of fire from the sky, the flames strangely licking at the undead hordes and avoiding the humans.

Andrea Terraknight found herself standing outside of her father's tower, fists clenched. She needn't even speak magic words at this point. She walked toward the doorway and the huge slabs of metal flew inward, torn from their hinges, and smashed into the back wall. She made her way up the stairs, stopping once to twitch a finger toward an undead guardian, sending it back to hell where it belonged. A splash of blackened blood sprayed across herface and dripped down her cheek to her chin. She walked into the study to find Denkhara sleeping on the corner bed. When she awoke later, she would regret not killing him as he lay unconscious. Instead, she saw his memoirs and was drawn to them. One couldn't live

for so many years and not wonder what those pages contained. As she began to read, she felt a hand touch her head, anda ll went black.

Andrea awoke to find herself in Denkhara's sanctuary. "You know," started Denkhara, "you're the only person to ever see this room."

Andrea didn't respond. She was speechless, for in front of her, bolted to the wall, lay two bodies; Her mother's, and a second incomplete one. The second lacked a head.

"I see you're glad to see your mother, dear daughter," smirked Denkhara, "but I doubt ye know who the second is. You see, that was to be the new body for my beautiful Marie."

"This is what I felt all those years?" she asked.

"Most likely," replied Denkhara. "But enough about that. I'm much more interested in your powers. Tell me, where is it that you've trained to become so strong?"

Andrea tried to break the magical bonds that held her but her attempts were met with severe pain. Yet, the rage built within her, fueling her, surpassing the pain. Her eyes flared solid emerald once more...

To Be Continued...